2000 California Olive Probability Survey Results

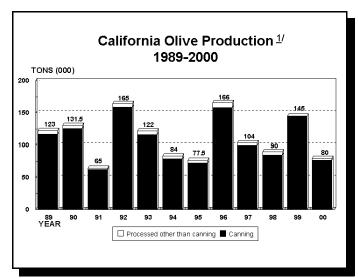


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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

2000 CALIFORNIA OLIVE FORECAST

The 2000 olive crop is forecast at 80,000 tons, down 45 percent from the 1999 production of 145,000 tons. Bearing acres are estimated at 36,000. Due to poor weather conditions during the bloom and pollination periods, most growers expect a light crop. Thus far, fruit size appears to be normal in most orchards. The Manzanillo variety has about 70 percent of the total production. Growers expect the Manzanillo variety yield to decrease about 57 percent from last year's yield. Growers expect the yield of Sevillano and Ascolano varieties, which account for about 21 percent of production, to decrease by 66 percent and 35 percent, respectively. Growers estimate 96 percent of their olives will be used for canning purposes. This results in a canning olive production of about 77,000 tons.



1/ Breakdowns for 1989-98 based on reported processor data; 1999 not available; 2000 on survey data.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) designed the probability survey, developed a sampling scheme, and analyzed the data. The California Olive Committee (COC) provided CASS with grower names and last year's tonnage.

SURVEY SAMPLE

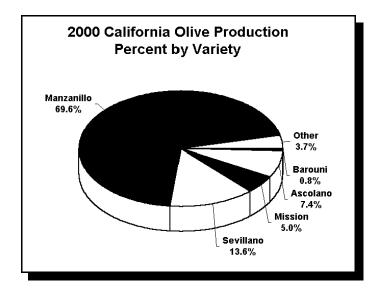
A total of 379 growers was sampled for the survey. Reports from 183 were used by CASS to establish this forecast. The sample is designed to give a State estimate of all varieties; estimates by variety should be construed to be less precise. In addition, at the request of the COC, growers were asked to estimate the percentage of their olive crops that will be used for canning purposes.

VARIETAL FORECAST

Growers were asked to estimate production by variety. The following table lists a varietal level forecast based on survey data.

Variety	1999 Tonnage <u>1</u> /	2000 Estimated Tonnage	Percent Change
Barouni		600	
Sevillano Ascolano		11,000 6,000	
Manzanillo Mission		55,400 4,000	
Other		3,000	
TOTAL	145,000	80,000	- 45

1/ Breakdowns by variety for 1999 not available.



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